

United States Patent and Trademark Office

M

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. | | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 09/670,646 | 09/27/2000 | Larry A. Brocious | EN999-069 | 7162 | | | | |
| 30743 | 7590 04/14/2005 | | EXAMINER | | | | | |
| WHITHAM, CURTIS & CHRISTOFFERSON, P.C. | | | | | | | | |
| 11491 SUNS | ET HILLS ROAD | | | | | | | |
| SUITE 340 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | | | | |
| RESTON, V | A 20190 | | ` | | | | | |

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief (37 CFR 41.37) | | Application No. | Applicant(s) | Applicant(s) | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--|--|--|
| | | 09/670,646 | BROCIOUS ET | BROCIOUS ET AL. | | | |
| | | Examiner | Art Unit | | | | |
| | | Martin Lerner | 2654 | | | | |
| | The MAILING DATE of this communication app | pears on the cover sheet | with the correspondence | address | | | |
| The Ap | opeal Brief filed on 23 March 2005 is defective fo | or failure to comply with | one or more provisions o | of 37 CFR 41.37. | | | |
| MONT | oid dismissal of the appeal, applicant must file a of the or THIRTY DAYS from the mailing date of this DD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136. | | | | | | |
| 1. 🛚 | The brief does not contain the items required unheading or in the proper order. | nder 37 CFR 41.37(c), | or the items are not unde | er the proper | | | |
| 2. 🗌 | The brief does not contain a statement of the status of all claims, (e.g., rejected, allowed or confirmed, withdrawn, objected to, canceled), or does not identify the appealed claims (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(iii)). | | | | | | |
| 3. 🗌 | At least one amendment has been filed subsequent to the final rejection, and the brief does not contain a statement of the status of each such amendment (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(iv)). | | | | | | |
| 4. 🛚 | (a) The brief does not contain a concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal, referring to the specification by page and line number and to the drawings, if any, by reference characters; and/or (b) the brief fails to: (1) identify, for each independent claim involved in the appeal and for each dependent claim argued separately, every means plus function and step plus function under 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, and/or (2) set forth the structure, material, or acts described in the specification as corresponding to each claimed function with reference to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawings, if any, by reference characters (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(v)). | | | | | | |
| 5. 🛚 | The brief does not contain a concise statement of each ground of rejection presented for review (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(vi)) | | | | | | |
| 6. | The brief does not present an argument under a separate heading for each ground of rejection on appeal (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(vii)). | | | | | | |
| 7. 🗌 | The brief does not contain a correct copy of the appealed claims as an appendix thereto (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(viii)). | | | | | | |
| 8. 🗌 | The brief does not contain copies of the evidence submitted under 37 CFR 1.130, 1.131, or 1.132 or of any other evidence entered by the examiner and relied upon by appellant in the appeal, along with a statement setting forth where in the record that evidence was entered by the examiner, as an appendix thereto (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(ix)). | | | | | | |
| 9. 🗌 | The brief does not contain copies of the decisions rendered by a court or the Board in the proceeding identified in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of the brief as an appendix thereto (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(x)). | | | | | | |
| 10. | Other (including any explanation in support of the above items): | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

Application/Control Number: 09/670,646

Art Unit: 2654

NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF 37 CFR §41.37

Applicants' Appeal Brief filed 23 March 2005 fails to comply with 37 CFR §41.37. Applicants must note that the rules of practice have changed for filing appeals before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. New Rules of Practice before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences are effective for all appeals filed after 13 September 2004. Specifically, 37 CFR §1.192 is abolished. The content of an Appeal Brief is now governed by 37 CFR §41.37. More information may be found on the web site of the United States Patent and Trademark Office at:

http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/bpai/fr2004/moreinfo.html.

The text of Rule 41 is there set forth in its entirety.

Specifically, Applicants' Appeal Brief is defective in the following respects:

- (1) Appellants' Brief, Page 1, should not refer to 37 CFR §1.192, which is abolished.
- (2) Appellants' Brief, Pages 7 to 9, does not satisfy the requirements of 37 CFR §41.37(c)(1)(v). "Summary of Invention" is now "Summary of the Claimed Subject Matter". The section must refer to the claimed subject matter of each of the independent claims, and must refer to the specification by page and line numbers.
- (3) Appellants' Brief, Page 10, does not satisfy the requirements of 37 CFR §41.37(c)(1)(vi). "Issues" is now "Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal".

Application/Control Number: 09/670,646 Page 3

Art Unit: 2654

(4) Appellants' Brief, Page 11, does not satisfy the requirements of 37 CFR §41.37. There is no section under the new rules for "Grouping of Claims".

(5) Appellants' Brief, Page 28, does not satisfy the requirements of 37 CFR §41.37(c)(1)(viii). The section should not refer to 37 CFR §1.192(c)(9), which is abolished.

A shortened statutory period for Applicants to amend the Appeal Brief is set to expire **ONE MONTH** from the mailing date of this letter. The time period is extendable under 37 CFR §1.136. See 37 CFR §41.37(e).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Martin Lerner whose telephone number is (571) 272-7608. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday to Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (571) 272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ML 4/7/05

Martin Lerner

Examiner

Group Art Unit 2654